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IN VACATION.

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**Could He Vouch for the Virtues, or Were the Virtues Vouchers?—**

In a city not a thousand miles from Hampton Roads an amazed Commissioner of Accounts received the following note from a prominent member of the Bar:

"I herewith submit the second annual report of Mrs. X. Please be so good as to return her *virtues* when the account is audited."

Quaere: Whose office was held responsible?

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**A Confusing Case.**—Doctor—"What was the most confusing case you ever tried?"

Judge.—"A case of champagne. I hadn't got half-way through it before I was all muddled up."—Ex.

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**Poetry of Bench and Bar.**—In *Tally v. State*, 5 Ga. App. 480, 63 S. E. 543, which was an appeal from a conviction of cruelty to animals, the defendant's counsel was responsible for the following verse:

"No matter how hot is the bottom,  
And the mule is beset by the flies,  
Let the negro at work in the cotton  
Never slap with the lines if he's wise.  
Though the lines may be tight on the nigger  
And the contract enslaves, he's a fool  
If he slaps and then thinks he's bigger  
In the eyes of the law than the mule."

To this portion of the argument the court replied in perhaps no poorer poesy, and much better law:

"When the sun shines hot in the bottom  
And the mule is beset with the flies,  
The hand and the head which guide the poor beast  
Should be at once gentle and wise.  
The man who trusts his beast to a plow-hand—  
For negroes and whites, the law is the same—  
Is assured that the statutes and law of the land  
Forbid that his brute be tortured or maimed.

"So where a mule's in sole charge of a driver,  
He (no matter what color his skin)  
Must show, if that mule should be injured,  
That the hurt was not due to his sin.  
True, the law holds the driver far bigger  
Than a conscienceless mule to be,  
Yet the law should avenge with all vigor  
All drivers' acts of wanton cruelty."